† **श्री अबू आसिम आजमी (उत्तर प्रदेश):** मैडम्, मैं इस सदन के जरिए सरकार से बंगला देश की विवादास्पद लेखिका तसलिमा नसरीन के नॉवेल "द्विखण्डिता" पर प्रतिबंध लगाने की मांग करता हूं, क्योंकि उसने अपने उपन्यास में इस्लाम के विरुद्ध कुछ आपत्तिजनक बातें कहीं हैं। मैं किसी भी लेखक के स्वतंत्र लेखन का विरोध नहीं कर रहा हूं लेकिन लिखने की आजादी का यह मतलब नहीं कि किसी दूसरे व्यक्ति या धर्म की भावनाओं को ठेस पहुंचाई जाए। लेकिन दुर्भाग्य यह है कि कुछ लेखक वैचारिक आजादी के नाम पर हिन्दू और मुसलमान समुदाय में नफरत पैदा कर रहे हैं। मुझे यह कहने में तनिक भी संकोच नहीं है कि यह सब कुछ विदेशी ताकतों जिनको इस्लाम पसंद नहीं है उनके इशारे पर हो रहा है। मैडम, उपन्यास में निम्न आपत्तिजनक बातें कही गई हैं जो मैं इस सदन की जानकारी के लिए यहां कह रहा हूं। ...(व्यवधान)

उपसभापति: जो चीजें आपको पसंद नहीं हैं और आप बेन करवाना चाह रहे हैं तो यहां क्यों बोल रहे हैं उनको। फिर किताब और बिकेगी।

श्री अबू आसिम आजमी: इस उपन्यास के पृष्ठ संख्या 49 और 53 पर पैगम्बर-ए-इस्लाम मुहम्मद साहब की शान में गुस्ताखी की गई है। इस उपन्यास में कुरआन की कुछ आयतों के गलत उदाहरण पेश किए गए हैं। इस उपन्यास में साम्प्रदायिक नफरत फैलानी वाली सारी बातें मौजूद हैं जिससे देश में साम्प्रदायिक तनाव और दंगा होने की आशंका है। इस उपन्यास में बंगला देश के मशहूर लेखकों तथा व्यक्तियों के बारे में भी गंदी टिप्पणियां की गई हैं। बंगला देश में इस किताब पर पाबंदी है। इस तरह भारत में इसकी बिक्री से भारत बंगला देश के सम्बन्धों पर असर पड़ सकता है। इस किताब में मुहम्मद साहब की शान में गुस्ताखी और पवित्र कुरआन की आयतों को गलत ढंग से पेश करने की कोशिश की गई है। इसलिए इससे न सिर्फ भारत के 20 करोड़ मुसलमान बल्कि पूरी दुनिया के 125 करोड़ मुसलमानों के जजबातों को ठेस पहुंचेगी और इस्लामिक देशों की नजरों में भारत की धर्मनिरपेक्ष छवि को नुकसान पहुंच सकता है।

मैडम, अपने देश में पश्चिम बंगाल सरकार ने पहले ही इस उपन्यास पर प्रतिबंध लगा दिया है। इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से मांग करता हूं कि इस उपन्यास के आयात, पूर्व प्रकाशन, अनुवाद तथा बिक्री पर रोक लगाई जाए और अगर इसकी कापियां बाजार में हों तो उसे जब्त करने की कार्रवाई की जाए। धन्यवाद।

Need to appoint Wage Board for the Media Persons

SHRI M.P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI (Kerala): Madam, for my Special Mention, I request the association of the Members of the House and I also expect response from the hon. Minister.

Madam, this is to draw the attention of the Government to the very urgent need for appointing the Wage Board for carrying out reform[s] for

† Transliteration of Urdu speech

betterment of the conditions of thousands of our brothers who work in the print and the visual media. The Government is considering the recommendations of the Labour Commission, headed by Shri Ravendra Verma, and has decided not to appoint Wage Board for the media persons. This policy is highly deplorable and that goes against the spirit of democracy and the interest of a large number of brilliant people working in this sector. Madam, the Working Journalists and other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service Other Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1955 was passed by the historical initiative taken by Shri Jawaharlal Nehru. The major aim of this landmark legislation was to set up a Wage Board for reforming the wages of the press people. Thus, the last Wage Board was constituted with Justice Manisana Singh as its Chairman. During the last decade, the number of persons working in the visual media has increased. But, it is shameful that no effort is made to set right their service conditions. The media persons should not be compelled to go on strike. Madam, 1st December was observed as Wage Board Day by the media persons in Kerala. Now a days, the importance of media and its contribution to nation is more than that of the Fourth Estate. No intelligent Government can deny rights of those who work hard for the protection of national values. Politics and Press are interrelated. So, Madam, I request that the Government should urgently take necessary steps for the constitution of the Wage Board for the media persons.

SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA (Orissa): Madam, I associate myself with this Special Mention.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN (Kerala): Madam, I also associate myself with this.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Madam, I also associate myself with this.

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी (पश्चिमी बंगाल): उपसभापति महोदया, समदानी जी ने जो मुद्दा उठाया है इसके ऊपर सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिए।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The entire House should associate itself with it.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Madam, I also associate myself with it.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): Madam, the entire House should associate itself with it.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are under the watchful eye of the media from the gallery. So, for their benefit, I say that the entire House

and the Chair support it.

SHRI M.P. ABDUSSAMAD SAMADANI: Madam, let the Minister say a few words on this.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister is a part of the House. He is not outside the House.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): Madam, since the hon. Member has raised a very important issue and it has got the support of a number of Members present in the House, I will definitely, bring it to the notice of the concerned Minister.

Need to take steps to prevent Police Custodial Deaths

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Madam, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to my Special Mention titled 'Police Custodial Deaths : A Social Stigma or Judicial Injustice. "To serve and protect", "For you, with you, always", etc., are just some of the mottos of the police force in our country. But, are these just words without meaning when the fact remains that police brutality is what makes most of the news nowadays, instead, being commemorated for fighting crime? There have been numerous cases of custodial deaths in the past. The recent example is of Sushil Kumar, who was picked up by personnel of the Madipur Police Post in New Delhi on the suspicion of tipping off gamblers. The whole situation could have been avoided, as the said person had not committed that big a crime. Even if he had tipped-off gamblers of a police raid, that was not as big a reason for the police brutally beating him to death. A mob of 3000 locals attacked the said police post and blocked traffic for nearly four hours. Many policemen and locals suffered injuries in the resulting clash. The five guilty policemen were suspended and a case of murder was registered against them, but no one was arrested.

Madam, this was an example where at least a case was registered only because things went out of hand of the police. However, there have been many cases where no action was taken ever, and the guilty police personnel roam scot-free. So, I urge upon the Government to ensure the safety of all citizens in police custody and made medical check ups mandatory at the time of arrest and during and after interrogations every week.

DR. M. N. DAS (Orissa): Madam, I associate myself with this Special Mention.